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THE ENEMY WITHIN!
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"AMERICAN. HUH. YOU DIDN'T WASTE ANY TIME.
"FRENCH PRESS ISN'T EVEN HERE YET, AND TO BE HONEST, MON AMI, WE'RE THE WORST."
I'M IN PARIS TO COVER THE PRESIDENT'S MEETING WITH THE HEADS OF THE FORMER CZECH NATIONS --
YOU'LL MISS IT. OTHER SIDE OF THE RIVER. HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THIS INCIDENT SO QUICKLY, MISTER KENT?
I HAVE GOOD EARS.
BAD EYES, THOUGH. GLASSES. HEH.
YOU'LL WANT TO TAKE THEM OFF BEFORE WE GET INSIDE.
WHY WE'RE GETTING INVOLVED WITH THE RUSSIANS, I'LL NEVER UNDERSTAND. LET THOSE PEOPLE TEAR ONE ANOTHER APART. MAKES NO DIFFERENCE.
THE PRESIDENT SAYS WE'RE BOUND BY "THREADS OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY." I THINK IT'S POLITICIANS TIED IN KNOTS.
I DON'T KNOW... WITHOUT THE "THREADS" THAT CONNECT US, HOW DO YOU GET TO SEE THE BIG --
-- PICTURE.
TOLD YOU.

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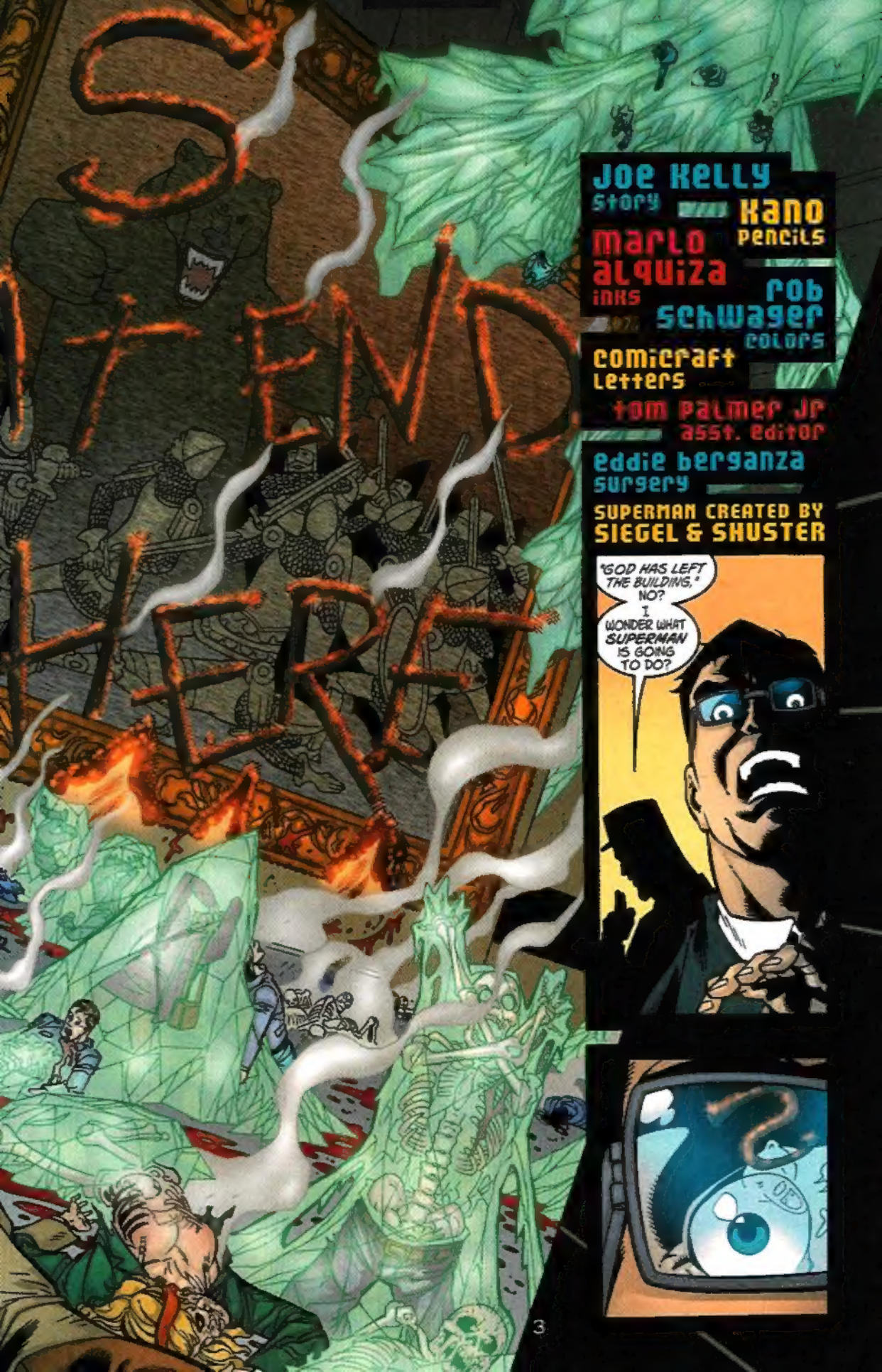
FIEND
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eddie berganza
surgery
SUPERMAN CREATED BY
SIEGEL & SHUSTER
"GOD HAS LEFT THE BUILDING," NO? I WONDER WHAT SUPERMAN IS GOING TO DO?

NO VIDEO. NO AUDIO. NO WITNESSES. NO PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ASIDE FROM WHAT I BROUGHT YOU, PROFESSOR HAMILTON.
WE'RE ON THE SAME PAGE NOW. SKIP ME TO THE LAST CHAPTER OF THE MYSTERY.
PLEASE.
THERE'S EVIDENCE OF FOCUSED HEAT DEPLOYMENT, TREMENDOUS PHYSICAL POWER --
-- AND AN UNCATEGORIZED EFFECT THAT APPARENTLY CAUSES SPONTANEOUS PROTOPLASMIC NECROSIS.
DECAY ON THE CELLULAR LEVEL.
THE CRYSTAL RESIDUE HOLDS TRACES OF ALIEN D.N.A., BUT GIVE ME SOME MORE TIME TO NARROW IT DOWN TO A SOLAR SYSTEM. THAT LEAVES ONLY THE OBVIOUS --
THIS "RANDOM ACT OF VIOLENCE" WAS NOTHING OF THE SORT. IT WAS PERSONAL.
IT WAS ENGINEERED, SUPERMAN. THE PRECISION AND RELATIVE CLEANLINESS OF THE ATTACK, THE MESSAGE. WHOEVER DID THIS...
...THEY'RE SETTING A TRAP.

SOMEWHERE... COLD.
DEAR MOM. ME LOVE IT HERE.
ME NEVER WANT TO LEAVE. EVERYTHING IS BEAUTIFUL AND CLEAN, AND THE PEOPLE ARE VERY VERY VERY VERY NICE TO ME.
EXPENSIVE CHEESE — FREE!
WE PLAY EVERY DAY. ONE BAD THING...
...ME LOSE A FRIEND. HE NOT A RAT. ME DON'T CALL HIM "GEORGE."
SWAK!
SQUEEK!
BIZARRO
HIM! BAD TO ME— HIM... PLEASE DON'T TAKE ME HOME RIGHT NOW. PLEASE.
HATE YOU. HATE YOU VERY MUCH...
P.S. ME LOVE SUPERMAN. ME WANT TO BRING HIM LIFE. ME WANT TO BRING HIM LIFE VERY MUCH.
YOU POOR, TWISTED ABERRATION. IF ONLY YOU KNEW...
GENERAL... YOUR "PLAYMATE" IS READY FOR ANOTHER ROUND WHENEVER YOU ARE.

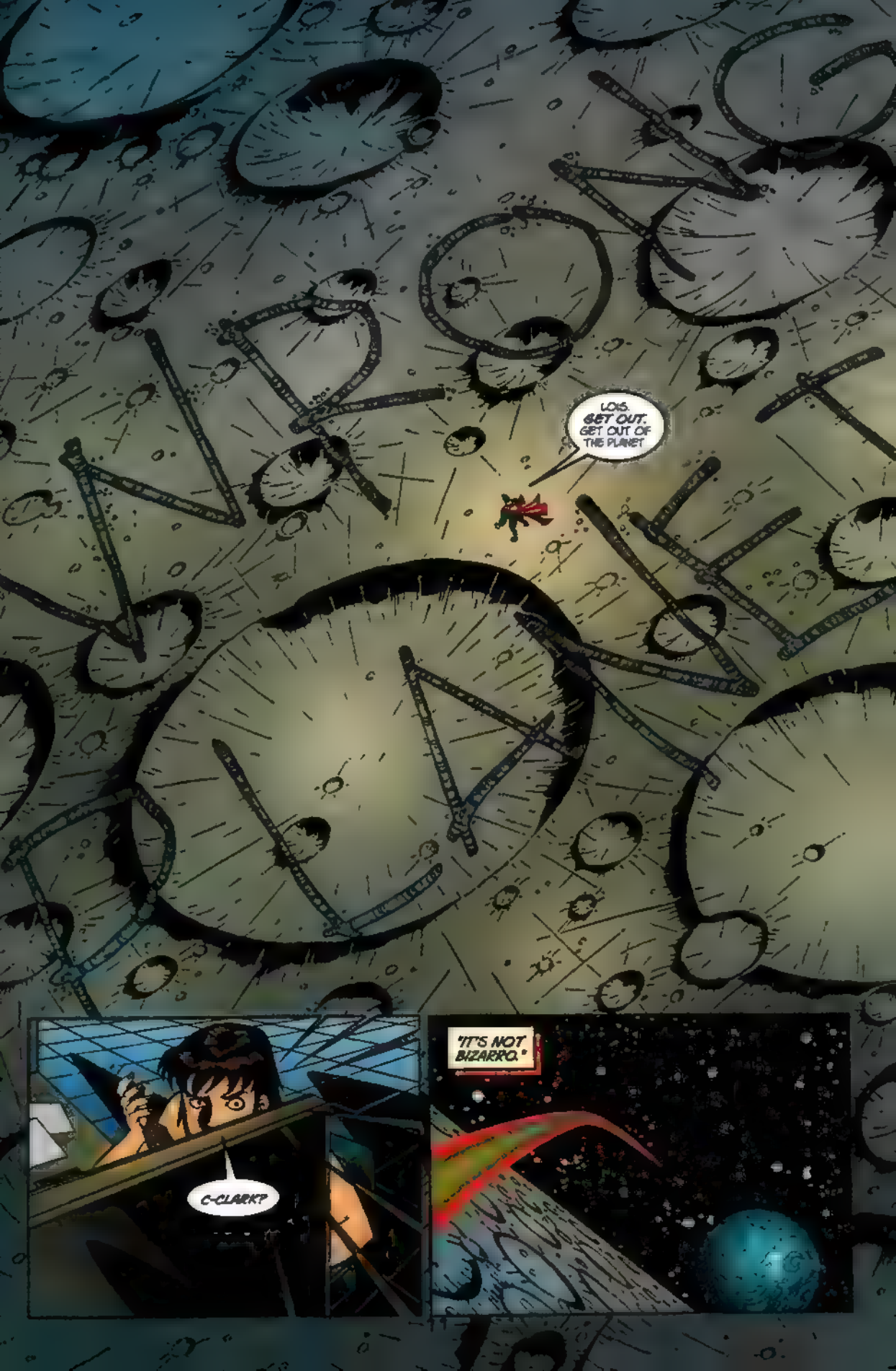
WHOEVER IT IS KNOWS YOU. DEFINITELY. KNOWS THIS WILL HAUNT YOU. GET YOU LOST IN YOUR OWN HEAD.
THE ELITE?
CHECKED. MANCHESTER AND THE REST ARE LOCKED DOWN WHERE THEY SHOULD BE.
OKAY, WHO'S THE BIG PLAYER, THEN, KOJAK?
I HAVE A SHORT LIST. EMIL'S MAP OF THE D.N.A. SAMPLE WILL NARROW IT DOWN, BUT-- NONE OF THIS MAKES SENSE. I'M AT A LOSS.
I TRY TO THINK... AND ALL I CAN SEE IS THE LOUVRE. THOSE PEOPLE... MURDERED IN MY NAME.
MISDIRECTION 101. CONFUSE YOUR TARGET. FILL HIM WITH DOUBT AND SKEWER HIS INSTINCTS SO HE'LL MISS THE OBVIOUS.
SHOCKING MURDER IN PUERTO VALLARTA ACCOMPANIED BY A MESSAGE TO--
I KNOW THIS SOUNDS COLD, CLARK, BUT IF YOU'RE GOING TO CRACK THIS, YOU HAVE TO STEP PAST THE BODIES. YOU HAVE TO SEE THE THREADS--
--SUPERMAN...
SWOOSH
--STAY CALM AND... OBJECTIVE.
SOMEONE GET ME A LOLLIPOP AND DARK SHADES. MRS. SUPERMAN IS ON THE CASE.

"I WAS A FEW BLOCKS OVER INTERVIEWING THE ROCKET SCIENTISTS AT THE 'MISS LUCKY LUBE' PAGEANT.
"THEY DON'T HAND OUT PRIZES FOR 'TALENT AND APTITUDE,' IF YOU CATCH ME.
"LEFT MY CARD WITH 'SEÑORITA CARBURETOR' WHEN DUTY CALLED, BUT I DON'T THINK SHE COULD READ ENGLISH..."
KHANDIHAR
S NEVER FORGET
POLICIA
...OR DECIPHER THE INTRICATE CODE OF LETTERS AND NUMBERS FOR THAT MATTER.
GET OUT OF HERE, RYDER. THIS IS NOT THE TIME.
CLEARLY, YOU KNOW NOTHING ABOUT JOURNALISM. IT'S ALWAYS THE TIME TO RUB UP NEXT TO THE FIRST AMENDMENT.
SO, FOR ALL THE KIDS READING THIS SHOCKING EXCLUSIVE IN THE DAILY STAR...
HOW DOES IT FEEL TO HAVE A FAN WHO'S WILLING TO KILL FOR YOU?
HSSSS
I WOULD LIKE TO FILE A POLICE REPORT. MY PERSON HAS BEEN ASSAULTED.
NO HABLO INGLES... JERK.

KHANDIHAR
BDEET
BDEET
BDEET
I REALIZE EMIL'S BEEN PAGING ME FOR THE LAST TWO MINUTES.
SORRY, EMIL. I'M IN MEXICO. I'LL GATHER--
IT'S KRYPTONIAN.
IMPERFECT KRYPTONIAN.

BIZARRO? I MEAN, I GET THE CONNECTION. HEAT BREATH. ICE VISION. BAD GRAMMAR. THE D.N.A.--
BIZARRO IS A CREATURE OF RANDOMNESS WITH A PERSONAL GRUDGE AGAINST ME--
I DON'T WANT TO CALL YOUR DEDUCTIVE SKILLS INTO QUESTION, BUT THERE ARE POSSIBILITIES OTHER THAN A MENTAL DEFICIENT WITH BAD SKIN!
IT FITS. I'M ON THE MOON NOW... WHERE HE WAS LAST SIGHTED.
WHOA. SLOW DOWN, SPACE-COWBOY-- DIDN'T WE JUST JET BACK FROM "BELIEVE IT OR NOT" PLANET KRYPTON? WEREN'T WE WORRIED THAT THE TRIP MIGHT CAUSE A SHOE TO DROP?
BESIDES, THE ATTACKS MAY NOT BE RANDOM. I'VE BEEN LOGGING THE--
--NAMES OF THE VICTIMS AND--
THIS IS IT, OKAY?!
BACK OFF AND LET ME DO MY JOB!

LOIS... THESE MURDERS...
I'M SORRY.
JUST LAST WEEK, AGAINST THE ELITE, I FOUND MYSELF MIRED IN HUMAN UGLINESS.
THE WORST WE HAD TO OFFER.
I GUESS I DON'T WANT TO BELIEVE A HUMAN BEING IS DOING THIS TOO. DOING IT FOR ME.
I FEEL LIKE I'M BEING PUNISHED FOR SOMETHING I DON'T KNOW WHAT I DID
I KNOW, CLARK. I— HOLD ON.
BETTER TO THINK IT'S A MONSTER. A STUPID... ...MONSTER.
CLARK, STOP TALKING FOR A SECOND.
I GOT HIM. THE SAILORS WERE THE KEY.
REMEMBER THAT KOOKY MISHAP YOU HAD WITH INTERNAL KRYPTONITE POISONING?
THE MASTERMIND BEHIND THAT GAS SMUGGLED IN HIS WARES ON A SHIP —
LOIS...


LOIS, GET OUT. GET OUT OF THE PLANET
C-CLARK?
"IT'S NOT BIZARRO."

HGGLCH
GOD, YOU'RE UGLY.
GLCHH
?
BOOM

SKRIEEEEEEE
NO
MORE
KILLING!
SKRIEEEEEEEEEEEEEE

WHAT ARE YOU?!!
YOU TAL~
ARRGH!
...I AM THE WRETCHED PROGENY...
I AM THE UNLOVED...
...I AM THE FORSAKEN...
I... AMMM WHAT I AMMM...
CHOOM

I AMMM...
...KANGER!
HNNGH!
SCHRIPP
B-BLOOD? THAT'S NOT POSSIBLE. H-HE'D HAVE TO BE MAGICAL. OR —

IMPERFECT KRYPTONIAN D.N.A....
NO.
NO!
YOU SEEE... YOU SENSSSE... YOU KNOWWW...
CUT FROM YOUR FLESHHH EXCISED FOR NO SIN OTHER THAN EXISTENCEEE.
I'VE COME BACK TO YOU...
...FATHER!
SSSHHH

WHY DID YOU TRY TO KILL ME, FATHERRR?!
WHYYIEEEARGH!
SO STRONG. SO SHARP. THE POWERS. IT SHOULDN'T BE ABLE TO CUT ME, BUT IT CAN...
...BECAUSE IT WAS A PART OF ME
SHOULD JUST BE A MINDLESS THING. BUT IT'S A SADISTIC MURDERER...
.BECAUSE IT WAS A PART OF ME
I FEEL LIKE I'VE GONE MAD.

HOW CAN YOU LOVE THE WORMS MORE THAN MEEE?
HGGCHL
HOW CAN YOU DENY MEEE?!
YOU CAN'T. I WILL TAKE WHAT'S MINEEE... I WILL TAKE THAT ENERGY...
...AND I WILL SLAY THE WORMSS WHO HAVE MY FATHER'S FAVOR.
N-NO... IF YOU'RE TRULY A P-PART OF ME, YOU --
HUSHH, FATHER. LET THE END COME EASYYY. MY GIFFFT TO YOU.
YOU CANNOT SSSTOP ME. I HAVE LIFE. I HAVE THE MEANSSS.
I HAVE GUIDANCEEE.
GUIDANCE? WH-WHO?
THE ONE WHO SAVED MEEE IS A GOOD MANNN... A POWERFUL MANNN...
YOU WOULD LIKE HIM, IF HE DID NOT HATE YOUUU...
K-KEEP TALKING.
MY OTHER FATHERRR, THE MAN CALLED --

HZZZZZAAKT!
SKRAHHHH!
IT'S HIM... HE'S BACK...
MISS, PLEASE. WE'LL TAKE CARE OF YOU --
THE ASSASSIN... HE'S BACK...
AND I GOT HIM... I GOT HIM.

"WHAT MADE YOU THINK ELECTRICITY WOULD WORK?"
"EXPERIENCE. VOLTAGE THAT HIGH CAN STRAIGHTEN EVEN MY SPITCURL.
"FIGURED RAMMING KANCER INTO THE METROPOLIS HYDROELECTRIC TRANSFORMERS MIGHT DO THE TRICK, IF IT REALLY WAS... WHAT IT CLAIMED TO BE."
"IT'S STARTING TO SOUND POSSIBLE. S.T.A.R. LABS FINALLY ADMITTED THAT THE MASS REMOVED FROM YOUR BODY WAS STOLEN MONTHS AGO."
"'THREADS' THAT CONNECT US..."
"WHAT?"
"NOTHING. WHAT ABOUT THE SAILORS?"
"IT HIT ME THAT SOME OF THE DEAD WERE ALSO LISTED ON THE CREW MANIFEST OF THE KHANDHAR QUEEN. THE SHIP I TRACKED TO AFRICA.
"KANCER COULD HAVE INCINERATED THEM. INSTEAD, THE CORPSES HELP CRACK THE CASE.
"IT'S HIM, CLARK. WHOEVER TRIED TO KILL YOU BEFORE...
"HE'S BACK... AND HE WANTS YOU TO KNOW HE'S GOING TO TRY IT AGAIN."
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LAST TIME, THE ULTIMATE SUBTERFUGE, AND THIS TIME -- OPEN WARFARE. PSYCHOLOGICAL AND PHYSICAL. HE'S GOTTEN BOLDER.
SO WHERE IS HE? WHERE DID KANCER GO?
HERE.
"IT END HERE." MADE SENSE WHEN SUPERMAN THOUGHT IT WAS BIZARRO, BUT KANCER ISN'T AS GRAMMAR-CHALLENGED.
"IT END HERE...?" HE'S AT THE LOUVRE?
GUESS AGAIN. THAT TAPESTRY IS 15TH CENTURY FROM A SMALL NATION PREDATING THE CZECH REPUBLIC --
-- WHICH JUST HAPPENS TO BE THE HOME OF HALF THE KHANDIHAR CREW. A LITTLE PLACE CALLED --
-- POKOLISTAN.
HEY, THAT WAS MY LINE.
THIS BANTAM NATION, BORN OF A VIOLENT MILITARY COUP, IS RATTLING CAGES THROUGHOUT EUROPE --
-- AFTER DECLARING SOVEREIGNTY OVER TWO OF ITS FORMER SOVIET NEIGHBORS AND UNLEASHING A POTENT MILITARY FORCE TO ITS BORDERS.
YET THE INDIVIDUALS ORDERING THESE ACTS REMAIN NAMELESS. WHO IS BEHIND THE VIOLENCE THAT IS POKOLISTAN?
LOIS... YOU MAY HAVE TO GET A RIDE HOME FROM THE HOSPITAL
I THINK I'M GOING ON A TRIP.
END